



REQUEST FOR COUNCIL ACTION

MEETING DATE: June 26, 2023

PREPARED BY: John Hagen, P.E., PTOE, Transportation Operations Engineer

AGENDA ITEM: Berkshire Lane, 64th Avenue, 63rd Place, and Cheshire Lane
Speed limit reduction
Resolution No. 23-103

PREVIOUS ACTIONS:

At their September 16, 2019 meeting, Council considered a motion to adopt Resolution No. 19-113 adopting the Policy on Setting Speed Limits on City Streets.

RECOMMENDED COUNCIL ACTION:

Motion to adopt Resolution No. 23-103, adopting a posted speed limit of 25 mph on Berkshire Lane, 64th Avenue, 63rd Place, and Cheshire Lane within the neighborhood adjacent to the Donahue South Park.

COMMENTS:

Effective August 1, 2019, the Legislature authorized Minnesota cities to set speed limits on certain city streets after adopting their own procedures to set the new speed limits. Prior to the adoption of these new laws, the ability of a city to change speed limits was limited, and required a city to request the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) to conduct an engineering and traffic study on the city street. After the report was completed, MnDOT would then set the speed limit on the city street.

With the adoption of the City of Maple Grove Policy on Setting Speed Limits on City Streets on September 16, 2019, the city can now adopt speed limits on roadways under city jurisdiction without MnDOT involvement. Per the city's policy on setting speed limits on non-collector residential roadways, *"If a neighborhood within the City would like to request a lower speed limit on their residential street, they should send a formal request to the Engineering Department. The request should identify the street name(s), justification of the proposed 25 mph speed limit, and the contact information regarding the requestor. All requests will be referred to the City's Transportation Operations Engineer to review and determine if the street in question meets the statutory definition of a "residential roadway". If the street meets the statutory definition of a residential roadway, and circumstances exist along the roadway that are clearly unique from other residential streets within the City, the 25-mph speed limit request will be presented to the City Council for formal adoption."*

On May 5, 2023, the City of Maple Grove received a request for the city to lower the speed limit on Berkshire Lane between Bass Lake Road (County Road 10) and 63rd Avenue from 30 mph to 25 mph. City staff has reviewed the request and has found that this segment of Berkshire Lane meets the statutory definition of a “residential roadway”. Staff has also found that circumstances along the public streets within the neighborhood near Donahue South Park are unique from other streets within the city; specifically, the public streets within these neighborhoods are self-contained and do not have access to any other roadways other than County Road 10 and 63rd Avenue, are adjacent to a city park, and/or are narrower than our standard 31-foot wide residential street. Therefore, city staff is in support of the request for a reduction of the posted speed limit of not only Berkshire Lane between Bass Lake Road and 63rd Avenue, but also the looping streets of 64th Avenue / Cheshire Lane / 63rd Place that connect to Berkshire Lane. A map of the proposed roadways with the reduced 25 mph speed limit is attached.

It is therefore recommended that Council approve Resolution No. 23-103 adopting reduction of the speed limit along the following roadways within the neighborhood adjacent to the Donahue South Park:

- Berkshire Lane between Bass Lake Road (County Road 10) and 63rd Avenue; and
- 64th Avenue between Berkshire Lane and Cheshire Lane; and
- 63rd Place between Berkshire Lane and Cheshire Lane; and
- Cheshire Lane between 64th Avenue and 63rd Place.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment A: Resolution No. 23-103

Attachment B: Location map